

Categorical Exclusion

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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Chapter 1. Finger Mountain Right of way Renewal

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A. Background

BLM Office: Central Yukon Field Office

LLAKF03000

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: FF088199

Proposed Action Title/Type: Finger Mountain ROW Renewal (289500)

Location of Proposed Action: N1/2 Sec. 25, T. 18 N., R. 14 W., Fairbanks, Meridian

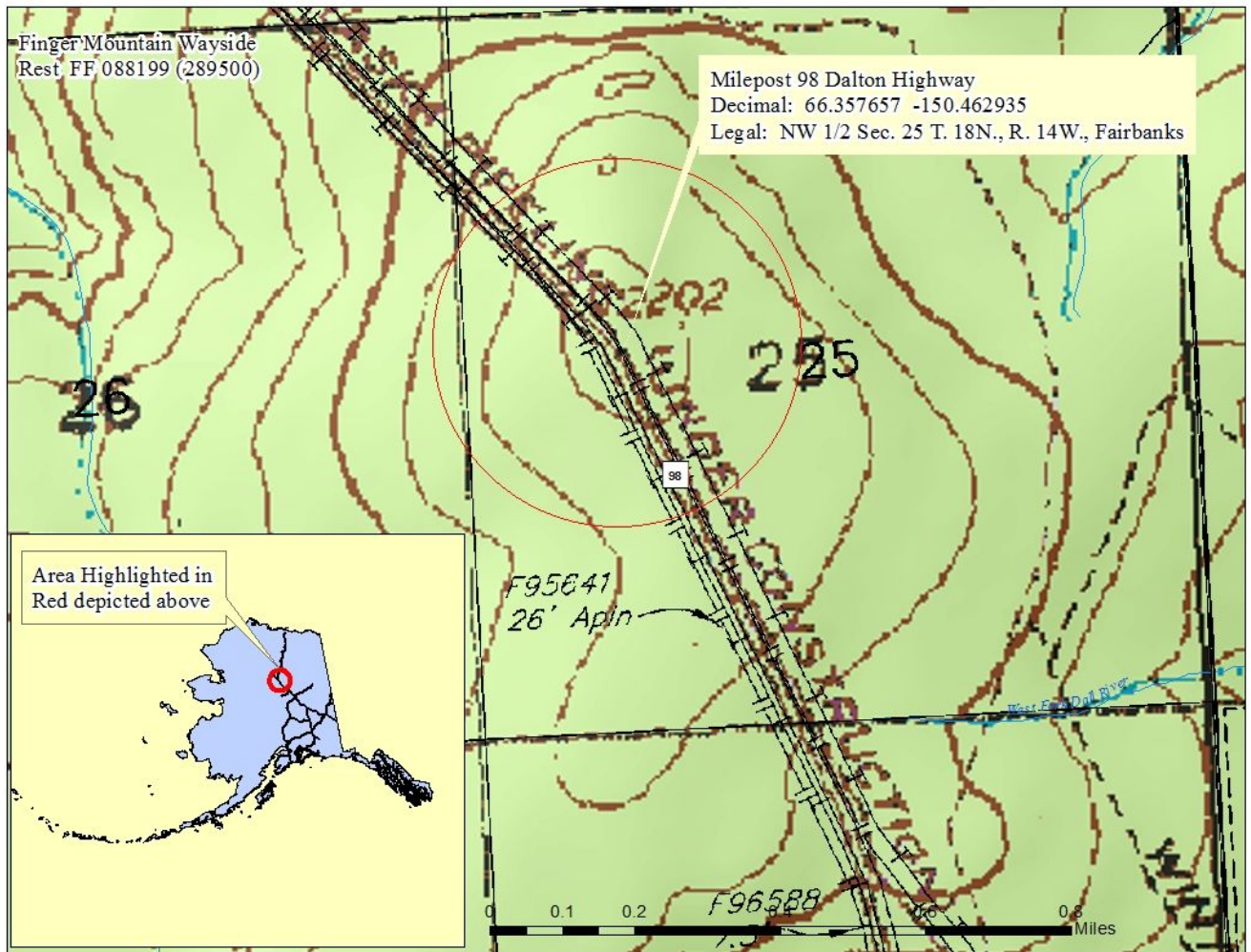


Figure 1.1. Map of Finger Mountain Right of Way Renewal

Description of Proposed Action: The BLM is planning to Renew a Right-of-Way grant for a turnout, wayside rest (Vault toilets), interpretive panels, and gravel pad at milepost 98 of the Dalton Highway. In addition, the BLM would like to ammend the right of way to include the installation of a sign (with BLM logo), a realignment of a trail-head leading to interpretive panels, and the placement of additional gravel to meet American Disability Act standards for access to the infrastructure at the site. As funding becomes available additional improvements and

upgrades would be completed within the existing footprint. Heaviest use period of this facility is May through September yearly.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name:Utility Corridor Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: January 11, 1991

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

1. **Chapter 2 (Proposed Realty Actions) on pg 23:**The authorized officer may designate right-of-way corridors across any public lands in order to minimize adverse environmental impacts and the proliferation of separate rights-of-way. The designation of corridors shall not preclude the granting of separate rights-of-way when it is determined confinement to a corridor is not appropriate. Designation criteria include existing land use plans, environmental impacts, physical effects and constraints, economic efficiency, national security risks, potential health and safety hazards, engineering and technological compatibility, and social and economic impacts on land users and adjacent owners. This RMP addresses rights-of-way corridors to the fullest extent possible and include: 1) the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Utility Corridor, 2) the Ambler Mining District/Dalton Highway access corridor [Sec. 201(4)(b) ANILCA] and, 3) the 1431 (j) corridor [Sec. 1431(j) ANILCA]. It is not possible to identify exclusion and avoidance areas at this time.
2. **Chapter 2 (Proposed Realty Actions) Proposed Action 21 on pg 26 :** This proposed RMP would make lands available to federal and state agencies and research organizations for needed administrative and support facilities where environmentally feasible and compatible with management objectives. Again, previously disturbed sites would be considered prior to allowing uses on undisturbed sites.

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions) :

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9:

11.9 E (Realty)

(9) Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

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D. Approval and Contact Information

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10/23/2014

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